Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao *(Chief Medical Officer).*— About 18.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി *(Anthikad).*— എയിഡഡ് ഡിസ്പെൻസറി വേണമെന്ന വല്ല അപേക്ഷകളും ഇപ്പോൾ പെൻറിംഗ് ആയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

ഡാക്ടർ ഡി. രാഘവേന്ദ്രറാവു *(Chief Medical Officer).*— ഇപ്പോഴും ഉണ്ട്.

Cochin Marketing Officers—working of.

15. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancherri).*— Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) how long have the Cochin Marketing Officers been working;

(b) what is the result of their labours hitherto?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—

(a) The Cochin Marketing Officers have been working since Medam 1110.

(b) Marketing survey reports on the following 13 commodities and a report on Co-operative Marketing in the State have been submitted to the Agricultural Marketing Adviser, Government of India.

Commodities.

1	Rice	8	Grapes
2	Wheat	9	Coffee
3	Ground-nut	10	Eggs
4	Linseed	11	Milk
5	Tobacco	12	Cattle
6	Pine-apples	13	Hides and skins
7	Bananas		

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*— With regard to the survey conducted upon some of our local products, are we in a positian to take independent action without reference to the Government of India at whose instance the survey was started?

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Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—Of course. We are not to take any action independent of the Government of India.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri)*—Are we to understand that till the Government of India takes action we are completely helpless regarding the finding of better markets for some of our home products?

Mr. President.—Government are now thinking of issuing orders to the marketing officers of the Agricultural Department to implement these individual reports by suitable actions within the State as early as possible.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Why has not cocoanut been included?

Mr. President.—It is only going on.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur.)*—Rice and cocoanut being the products of the State, I think some preference should have been given to it. Are not the commodities taken for survey decided by us?

Mr. President.—It is decided by the All India Survey.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—May I know whether grapes are grown in the State?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan. *(Wadakkancheri)*—May I know, Sir, whether the Government has any idea of undertaking the cultivation of tobacco either by themselves or by encouraging persons who come forward, to take up the cultivation?

Mr. President.—That report will only concern itself with the marketing of tobacco. Whether our soil is suited for the cultivation of tobacco is a question for which we do not get any guidance. That is a question which the Agricultural Department has to decide.

16. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Wadakkancheri).*—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they have any idea to find out better markets for the important produce of the State such as cocoanut through these marketing officers;

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(b) will anything be done in that line during 1113?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—

(a) Yes.

(b) Every effort will be made to undertake this during the year 1113.

Water Works—Chowwara and Nemmara—letting on contract.

17. **Mr. A. Narayana Menon** *(Vyttila).*—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether attempts have been made to let on contract the operations at the Chowwara Water Works and Nemmara Water Works;

(b) what amount has been spent in 1111 and 1112 for each of those works by the Government;

(c) what savings can be made by letting the works on contract?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—

(a) No.

(b)

Chowwara Water Works.

Expenditure including staff in 1111	...	35,285
Do in 1112 up to Edavam	...	37,086

Nemmara Water Works.

In 1111	...	6,362
In 1112 up fo Edavam	...	4,973

(c) The question of letting the maintenance of these plants on contract has not been seriously taken into consideration for the following reasons:—

(1) Government have invested considerable capital on costly machines which require careful attention and suitable maintenance. It is not desirable to entrust this work to profiteering contractors who by the use of inferior oils, and cheap supervision can do considerable damage to machinery.

(2) The rate at which water is now delivered at Ernakulam is considered very economical.

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